

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 11473 01 OF 07 192345Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 07 LONDON 11473

STATE FOR PA AND PA/PRESS; DEPARTMENT PASS NSC FOR DR.
BRZEZINSKI AND WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL; ICA FOR PGM/
PPE, EU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP: VANCE (CYRUS R.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S JULY 19 PRESS CONFERENCE

FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF THE OPENING STATEMENT AND
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FROM THE PRESS CONFERENCE HELD
BY SECRETARY VANCE AT HOLLINGBOURNE, ENGLAND, ON JULY 19
VANCE: AT PRESIDENT CARTER'S INVITATION AND WITH THE
GENEROUS COOPERATION OF THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES, THE
FOREIGN MINISTERS OF EGYPT AND ISRAEL AND I HAVE HELD
TALKS SINCE MONDAY EVENING AT LEEDS CASTLE. OUR PURPOSE
WAS TO DISCUSS IN DETAIL THE ISSUES RELATING TO THE WEST
BANK AND GAZA, AND TO LAY A BASIS FOR THE EARLY
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PAGE 02 LONDON 11473 01 OF 07 192345Z

CONTINUATION OF NEGOTIATIONS LOOKING TOWARD PEACE IN
THE MIDDLE EAST.

DURING OUR TWO DAYS AT LEEDS CASTLE, THE THREE DELEGATIONS
MET TOGETHER IN AN INFORMAL SETTING. THE TWO SIDES
EXPLORED IN DEPTH THE PRINCIPAL ISSUES AND CLARIFIED
FOR EACH OTHER THEIR RESPECTIVE PROPOSALS CONCERNING

THE WEST BANK AND GAZA. THESE WERE THE MOST CANDID AND PROBING DISCUSSIONS I HAVE HEARD BETWEEN THEM. I ALSO HELD SEVERAL BILATERAL MEETINGS WITH EACH OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS.

MAJOR DIFFERENCES REMAIN BETWEEN THE POSITIONS OF THE TWO SIDES. THERE IS A LOT OF HARD WORK AHEAD. COMMON ELEMENTS IN THEIR APPROACHES HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED. I BELIEVE EGYPT AND ISRAEL REMAIN FULLY COMMITTED TO ESTABLISHING A GENUINE PEACE, AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO HELP THEM IN THAT EFFORT. THE PARTIES WILL BE REPORTING TO THEIR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS. THE GOVERNMENTS WILL BE STUDYING THESE REPORTS. I ANTICIPATE THERE WILL BE FURTHER MEETINGS WHEN I GO TO THE MIDDLE EAST IN ABOUT TWO WEEKS. IN THE MEANTIME, I HAVE ASKED AMBASSADOR-AT-LARGE AHERN TO GO TO THE AREA TO MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH THE PARTIES AND TO PARTICIPATE, AS THEY MIGHT FIND USEFUL, IN PREPARATIONS FOR FURTHER MEETINGS.

THE FOREIGN MINISTERS JOIN ME IN EXPRESSING OUR THANKS TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM FOR THE GRACIOUS HOSPITALITY EXTENDED TO US AND OUR DELEGATIONS AT LEEDS CASTLE.

QUESTION: WHEN YOU GO TO THE MIDDLE EAST IN TWO WEEKS TIME, SIR, ARE YOU INTENDING TO CHAIR A CONFERENCE OF UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LONDON 11473 01 OF 07 192345Z

THE TWO SIDES?

VANCE: AS I SAID, I ANTICIPATE THAT WHEN I GO TO THE MIDDLE EAST THERE WILL BE ANOTHER MEETING SIMILAR TO THE MEETING WHICH WE HAVE BEEN HOLDING HERE DURING THE LAST TWO DAYS AT THE LEEDS.

QUESTION: DOES THAT MEAN YOU HOPE FOR IT, DO YOU, I MEAN, THERE IS NO ASSURANCE OF SUCH A MEETING.

VANCE: I SAID I ANTICIPATE THERE WILL BE.

QUESTION: DOES THAT MEAN YOU EXPECT THAT THERE WILL BE?

VANCE: I EXPECT THERE WILL BE, YES.

QUESTION: WHAT ARE THESE COMMON ELEMENTS IN THE POSITIONS OF THE TWO SIDES?

VANCE: I PREFER NOT TO GO IN TO THE COMMON ELEMENTS OR THE DETAILS OF THE DISCUSSIONS THAT TOOK PLACE BETWEEN THE PARTIES. I THINK THAT IT IS BETTER THAT WE NOT GO

IN TO THE INDIVIDUAL ELEMENTS OF THE DISCUSSIONS AND
THAT WE TALK IN MORE GENERAL TERMS AT THIS STAGE IN THE

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 01 LONDON 11473 02 OF 07 192353Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 07 LONDON 11473

DISCUSSIONS.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, WHEN YOU GO, IF THERE IS ANOTHE
MEETING WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OR WITH OTHER EGYPTIAN
AND ISRAELI OFFICIALS, WILL IT BE AGAIN TO ELABORATE ON
ISSUES OR WILL YOU THIS TIME ATTEMPT TO SIT DOWN AND
WRITE LANGUAGE, OR WHATEVER, ABOUT SOMETHING YOU COULD
AGREE ON. IN OTHER WORDS, WILL IT BE NEGOTIATIONS OR
JUST MORE TALKS?

VANCE: LET ME SAY THIS. I THINK THAT THE DISCUSSIT S
WHICH WE HAVE HAD DURING THE LAST TWO DAYS HAVE BEEN
USEFUL, AND ALL OF THE FOREIGN MINISTERS AGREE TO THIS.
LET ME TELL YOU A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT WHAT THE
DISCUSSIONS WERE, WITHOUT GOING INTO DETAILS. EACH OF
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 11473 02 OF 07 192353Z

THE SIDES STATED THE OBJECTIVES AND THEN WENT INTO THE DETAILS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE PROPOSALS. HAVING DONE THAT, THE OTHER SIDE THEN PROCEEDED TO QUESTION THE PARTY WHO HAD BEEN OUTLINING ANE DESCRIBING THEIR PROPOSALS AND THERE WERE A SERIES OF EXCHANGES WHICH WERE VERY THOROUGH AND IN GREAT DEPTH. THIS HAPPENED ON BOTH SIDES. AS A RESULT OF THIS INTENSIVE EXAMINATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE RESPECTIVE POSITIONS, I THINK THAT EACH OF THE SIDES NOW HAS A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF NOT ONLY THE OBJECTIVES BUT ALSO OF THE DETAILS THAT ARE INVOLVED. IT IS DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO REALLY REACH AGREEMENT ABOUT PROPOSALS UNTIL ONE UNDERSTANDS EXACTLY WHAT THOSE PROPOSALS MEAN AND WHAT THEY IMPLY. I THINK THAT THE DISCUSSIONS WE HAVE HAD HERE DURING THE LAST TWO DAYS HAVE ACCOMPLISHED THAT AND THEREFORE I THINK THEY HAVE LAID THE BASIS NOW FOR DISCUSSIONS WHICH COULD BE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES.

QUESTION: CAN I FOLLOW MYSELF UP BY ASKING, WILL YOU GO ONLY TO EGYPT AND ISRAEL OR WILL YOU ALSO GO TO JORDAN AND SAUDI ARABIA?

VANCE: I HAVEN'T TRIED TO LAY OUT ANY DETAILED ITINERARY WHERE I WILL GO. I WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF I ENDED UP BY GOING TO JORDAN AND TO SAUDI ARABIA AS WELL. THE FOCUS WILL BE ON THE QUESTION OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE PARTIES AS IT WAS HERE AT LEEDS.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, AS A RESULT OF THESE EXCHANGES ANE CLARIFICATIONS TODAY HAVE YOU BEEN ABLE TO IDENTIFY ANY FURTHER COMMON ELEMENTS TO THOSE YOU ALREADY DISCUSSED BEFORE.

VANCE: YES, THE ANSWER IS I HAVE AND I THINK THE PARTIES
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LONDON 11473 02 OF 07 192353Z

HAVE TOO.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHERE YOU MIGHT MEET WITH BOTH SIDES WHEN YOU GO TO THE MIDDLE EAST?

VANCE: AS FAR AS I AM CONCERNED, I AM PREPARED TO GO ANYWHERE THEY WANT TO GO AND I WILL WAIT FOR THEM TO SUGGEST WHAT THE BEST LOCATION IS.

QUESTION: HAVE THEY SUGGESTED A SITE AS YET?

VANCE: WELL YOU HAVE SEEN THINGS IN THE NEWSPAPERS
FROM TIME TO TIME ABOUT VARIOUS POSSIBLE SITES FOR ANY
SUCH MEETING, BUT THERE ARE NO CONCRETE PROPOSALS AT THIS
POINT.

QUESTITN: MR. SECRETARY, DID BOTH SIDES ELABORATE IN
ANY WAY ON WHAT IT IS THAT PRESIDENT SADAT TOLD DEFENCE
MINISTER WEIZMAN LAST WEEK?

VANCE: I WOULD ANSWER THE QUESTION THIS WAY. THAT
NOTHING WHICH CAME OUT IN THE DISCUSSIONS TODAY AND
YESTERDAY IN TERMS OF ELABORATION WAS INCONSISTENT WITH
WHAT HAS BEEN STATED PUBLICLY.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY DO YOU THINK THAT NEGOTIATIONS
CAN RESUME BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES WITHOUT ISRAEL
PRESENTING SOME NEW ELEMENT?

VANCE: I THINK BOTH OF THE PARTIES ARE GOING TO GO BACK
AND REFLECT ON THE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WHICH THEY HAD.
THEY WILL BE DISCUSSING THIS EXCHANGE WITH THEIR
GOVERNMENTS AND THEN ON THE BASIS OF THAT THEY WILL
BE PREPARED TO RESPOND TO WHAT MAY BE PROPOSED AT FURTHER
MEETINGS. BUT I THINK IT IS TOO EARLY YET TO COME TO
ANY CONCLUSIONS. I KNOW ONE OF THE QUESTIONS YOU ARE
OBVIOUSLY GOING TO ASK ME, SO I MIGHT AS WELL
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 LONDON 11473 02 OF 07 192353Z

UNCLASSIFIED

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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 11473 03 OF 07 200004Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
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UNCLAS SECTION 03 OF 07 LONDON 11473

PREEMPT THE QUESTION. HAS THERE BEEN PROGRESS? I THINK THAT THE MERE HOLDING OF THE MEETING HERE IN A SENSE IS PROGRESS. IF YOU WOULD ASK THE QUESTION IN TERMS: WERE THERE ANY DECISIONS TAKEN WHICH IN THE NORMAL SENSE OF THE WORD WOULD MEAN PROGRESS? I WOULD SAY THE ANSWER IS NO. BUT I THINK IT IS TOO EARLY FOR THAT QUESTION TO HAVE AN ANSWER. I THINK THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION WILL HAVE TO COME AT A LATER MEETING, BY WHICH TIME THE PARTIES WILL HAVE HAD A CHANCE TO REFLECT ON WHAT WAS BROUGHT OUT IN THE EXCHANGES BETWEEN THEM HERE, AND SEE WHAT THE RESPONSES ARE WHEN WE SIT DOWN THE NEXT TIME.

QUESTION: HOW DOES THIS COINCIDE WITH WHAT PRESIDENT SADAT SAID YESTERDAY IN KHARTOUM? HE SAID SOMETHING UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 11473 03 OF 07 200004Z

HAD TO COME OUT OF THIS MEETING, SOMETHING POSITIVE, OTHERWISE THERE WOULDN'T BE A Y USE TO GO ON?

VANCE: WELL I DON'T WANT TO COMMENT ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT SADAT. IT WILL BE UP TO HIM TO JUDGE.

QUESTION: WHAT IS PRECISELY THE ROLE OF THE UNITED STATES IN THIS MEETING?

VANCE: AT THE SUGGESTION OF PRESIDENT CARTER, WE INVITED THE FOREIGN MINISTERS AND THE DELEGATIONS OF THE OTHER TWO NATIONS TO JOIN WITH US HERE FOR THIS EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WHICH WE HAD. AT THE OUTSET OF THE MEETING, I OPENED THE MEETING, MADE A FEW REMARKS AND THEN IN EFFECT ASKED THE PARTIES THEMSELVES TO TAKE OVER THE DISCUSSION AND CARRY OUT THE DISCUSSION BETWEEN THEMSELVES. I WOULD SAY THAT WELL OVER 90 PERCENT OF THE DISCUSSION WHICH WAS HELD AND THE WORDS WHICH WERE EXCHANGED DURING THE MEETINGS AT WHICH ALL THREE OF US WERE PRESENT WERE EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES. I ONLY ASKED

OCCASIONAL QUESTIONS, QUESTIONS FOR CLARIFICATIONS WHEN I WANTED MYSELF TO TRY AND UNDERSTAND WHAT WAS BEING SAID OR TO SHARPEN AN ISSUE WHEN I FELT NEEDED TO BE SHARPENED.

QUESTION: (INAUDIBLE. VANCE REPEATED QUESTION AS FOLLOWS: THE QUESTION WAS, WHAT ABOUT THE QUESTIONS OF PRINCIPLE. THE QUESTIONER NOTED THAT THE STATEMENT WHICH I READ AT THE OUTSET REFERRED TO A DISCUSSION OF WEST BANK/GAZA ISSUES AND HE SAID WHAT ABOUT THE QUESTION OF PRINCIPLES AND WHEN WILL THAT BE FURTHER DEALT WITH.)

VANCE: IN DISCUSSING THE QUESTIONS OF WEST BANK AND GAZA, ONE CANNOT HELP BUT ALSO DISCUSS QUESTIONS OF UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LONDON 11473 03 OF 07 200004Z

PRINCIPLE. THEY ARE INTERTWINED. SO IN A SENSE, EVEN THOUGH WE WERE DISCUSSING THE SPECIFICS WEST BANK AND GAZA, IT HAD TO INVOLVE SOME DISCUSSION OF PRINCIPLES AND THOSE WILL CONTINUE TO BE DISCUSSED IN THE FUTURE AS WILL THE WEST BANK/GAZA QUESTION.

QUESTION: IN WASHINGTON ON 10TH (JULY) YOU WERE ASKED ABOUT EAST JERUSALEM, AND YOUR ANSWER WAS.....

VANCE: I SAID IT WAS A QUESTION OF NEGOTIATIONS

QUESTION: .. NOW ISN'T EAST JERUSALEM PART OF THE WEST BANK. IF 242 (U.N. RESOLUTION 242) STANDS FOR THE WEST BANK, IT SHOULD STAND ALSO FOR JERUSALEM. WHY DO YOU DIVIDE IT FROM 242?

VANCE: I WAS ASKED A SPECIFIC QUESTION ABOUT NEGOTIATIONS WITH RESPECT TO JERUSALEM - TO EAST JERUSALEM - AND I SAID THE ANSWER TO THAT QUESTION WOULD BE THAT THE QUESTION OF EAST JERUSALEM WOULD HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED BY THE PARTIES THEMSELVES AND THE RESULT OF THOSE DISCUSSIONS WOULD DETERMINE THE STATUS OF EAST JERUSALEM.

QUESTION: AS THESE NEGOTIATIONS BECOME MORE PROTRACTED AND YOUR PARTICIPATION GROWS GREATER AND YOUR TRAVELLING INCREASES, HAVE YOU HAD ANY REASON TO HAVE RESERVATIONS ABOUT GOING FOR A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT INSTEAD OF REVERTING TO THE STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH? AND IF I CAN ADD A THOUGHT. IS YOUR TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST A SALVAGE OPERATION, WHY IS IT NECESSARY FOR YOU TO GO?

VANCE: FIRST, MY PARTICIPATION IN THIS MEETING WAS NOT GREATER AND GREATER, INDEED IT WAS LESS THAN IT HAS BEEN IN THE PRIOR MEETINGS WHICH I ATTENDED. THE CONVERSATIONS,

AS I HAVE INDICATED, PREDOMINANTLY BETWEEN THE HEADS OF

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 LONDON 11473 03 OF 07 200004Z

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 01 LONDON 11473 04 OF 07 200012Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

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UNCLAS SECTION 04 OF 07 LONDON 11473

THE TWO DELEGATIONS AND THEIR DELEGATION STAFFS RATHER
THAN WITH THE UNITED STATES AND MYSELF PARTICIPATING IN
A MAJOR WAY SUCH AS I HAVE IN THE PAST. INsofar AS MY
TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST IS CONCERNED I THINK IT IS
IMPORTANT THAT WE CONTINUE OUR ACTIVE PARTICIPATION
BECAUSE I THINK WE CAN PROVIDE A FACILITATING ROLE, A
HELPFUL ROLE, TO WORK WITH THE PARTIES PARTICULARLY
WHEN THEY COME TO AREAS WHERE THEY RUN INTO OBSTACLES
WHERE IT MAY BE POSSIBLE FOR US TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS
TO HELP SURMOUNT THESE OBSTACLES. AND BOTH THE PARTIES
HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY WISH THE UNITED STATES AND THAT

I DO CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE IN IT. THEREFORE, WE WILL DO THAT.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, MAY I FOLLOW IT UP PLEASE.
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 11473 04 OF 07 200012Z

HAS THE GIVE AND TAKE HERE OVER THE PAST TWO DAYS MADE IT LESS NECESSARY FOR THE UNITED STATES TO COME FORWARD WITH ANY KIND OF FORMAL PEACE PROPOSALS?

VANCE: WE HAVE SAID BEFORE AND I WILL REPEAT IT AGAIN THAT WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS CAN BE CARRIED OUT AND THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION REACHED BY THE PARTIES. WE WOULD BE VERY HAPPY IF WE DIDN'T HAVE TO MAKE ANY SUGGESTIONS, BUT IF THINGS BECOME DEADLOCKED AND IT APPEARS DESIRABLE AND NECESSARY TO TRY TO BREAK THE DEADLOCK BY OUR MAKING SUGGESTIONS, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO DO SO.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY I WAS JUST ASKING FOR A COMPLETION OF YOUR ANSWER TO THE PREVIOUS QUESTION ON THE COMPREHENSIVE OR STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH. HAVE YOU ANY REASON TO RETHINK YOUR APPROACH FOR A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT?

VANCE: NO, NOT AT ALL.

QUESTION: WAS ANYTHING SAID THAT MIGHT ALLEVIATE THE SECURITY FEARS OF ISRAEL, FEARS OF ISRAEL FOR HER SECURITY ARE AT THE CORE OF THIS MATTER, WAS ANYTHING SAID WHERE ISRAEL CAN FEEL THAT THEY WOULD BE MORE SECURE?

VANCE: ONE OF THE ISSUES AS YOU MIGHT OBVIOUSLY EXPECT THAT WAS DISCUSSED IN CONSIDERABLE DETAIL WAS THE QUESTION OF SECURITY, BECAUSE THAT IS ONE OF THE KEY ISSUES. AND I WOULD SAY THAT A CONSIDERABLE AMOUNT WAS SAID ABOUT THAT ISSUE. I WOULD THINK THAT WHAT WAS SAID WOULD GIVE CONFIDENCE TO ISRAEL THAT THIS PROBLEM IS BEING SERIOUSLY ADDRESSED, AND MUST BE SERIOUSLY
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LONDON 11473 04 OF 07 200012Z

ADDRESSED AND MUST BE SATISFACTORILY RESOLVED IF THERE IS TO BE A SETTLEMENT.

QUESTION: HAS THEIR CONFIDENCE BEEN INCREASED BY THESE TALKS?

VANCE: WELL YOU WILL HAVE TO ASK THEM ABOUT THAT. I THINK IT WAS CERTAINLY SERIOUSLY ADDRESSED AND THOROUGHLY DISCUSSED.

QUESTION: A QUESTION ABOUT THE PHYSICAL CIRCUMSTANCES. THE SECURITY PROBLEM ASIDE, WAS IT HELPFUL TO YOUR PROCESS TO HAVE THEM IN A SECLUDED ISOLATED SITUATION, FREE FROM (WORD INAUDIBLE) AND OTHER SCRUTINIES?

VANCE: THE ANSWER IS YES. I THINK THAT THIS WAS VERY HELPFUL. THE FACT THAT WE WERE ABLE TO BE HERE IN THIS ATMOSPHERE WHERE WE COULD ALL SIT INFORMALLY TOGETHER AND DISCUSS THESE MATTERS WHERE WE COULD NOT ONLY PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS, BUT ALSO CHAT OVER DINNER, WALK AROUND THE GROUNDS TOGETHER AND TALK, AND ALL OF THOSE OTHER ATMOSPHERIC ASPECTS OF IT HELPED IN THE DISCUSSIONS. AGAIN I AM MOST APPRECIATIVE FOR THE FACT THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT HELPED US IN THIS.

QUESTION: WAS THAT A CONSIDERATION IN MOVING IT DOWN HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE?

VANCE: WELL THE FIRST TIME THAT I HEARD ABOUT THIS I WAS TOLD BY THE BRITISH FOREIGN SECRETARY THAT HE HAD ATTENDED A MEETING HERE EARLIER ON THIS YEAR AND THAT HE HAD FOUND IT TO BE A VERY USEFUL SITE FOR DISCUSSIONS OF THIS TYPE AND HE RECOMMENDED VERY HIGHLY THAT WE DO COME HERE. I AM AWFULLY GLAD THAT THE BRITISH MADE THIS SUGGESTION AND THAT WE WERE ABLE TO DO IT.

UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 04 LONDON 11473 04 OF 07 200012Z

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PAGE 01 LONDON 11473 05 OF 07 200025Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
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AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 05 OF 07 LONDON 11473

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY IF YOU ARE ABLE TO CONTINUE THESE NEGOTIATIONS AS A RESULT OF THESE MEETINGS AND YOUR OWN TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST, WILL THIS IN EFFECT BE TAKING UP THIS PROCESS WHERE IT WAS LEFT OFF IN JERUSALEM, OR HOW DOES WHAT YOU ARE GOING TO DO NOW COMPARE WITH WHAT HAS HAPPENED EARLIER IN THE YEAR?

VANCE: I THINK SINCE WE LAST DISCUSSED SOME OF THESE MATTERS IN JERUSALEM, WE HAVE HAD ANOTHER ELEMENT PUT ONTO THE TABLE, NAMELY A SPECIFIC PROPOSAL WITH RESPECT TO THE WEST BANK AND GAZA, WHICH I THINK HELPS IN DEALING WITH THE QUESTIONS OF PRINCIPLE. BECAUSE AS I INDICATED EARLIER, QUESTIONS OF PRINCIPLE ARE ALSO INTERTWINED WITH WHAT HAPPENED ON THE GROUND AS WELL. THEREFORE, I THINK THAT THE FACT THAT WE NOW HAVE BOTH
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 11473 05 OF 07 200025Z

RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS WITH RESPECT TO PRINCIPLES WHICH WOULD GOVERN AND ACT AS A FRAMEWORK FOR A COMPREHENSIVE SETTLEMENT AS WELL AS THE UNDERLYING PIECES IN TERMS OF WHAT WOULD HAPPEN ON THE WEST BANK AND GAZA IS A NEW AND HELPFUL ELEMENT.

QUESTION: IS IT YOUR IDEA, SIR, THAT YOU WOULD GO OUT TO THE MIDDLE EAST, BE PRESENT FOR THE START OF NEGOTIATIONS AND IF THINGS ALL PROCEEDED WELL THAT YOU WOULD PERHAPS LEAVE AND LET WHAT IN ESSENCE WOULD BE A RESUMPTION OF THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE TALKS CONTINUE, OR DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING ELSE IN MIND?

VANCE: I WOULD ASSUME THAT I WOULD PROBABLY JUST GO OUT AND HELP IN GETTING THINGS STARTED. I DON'T SEE AT THIS POINT MY GOING OUT AND SPENDING AN EXTENDED

TIME IN THE AREA.

QUESTION: WHEN YOU SPEAK OF PROGRESS, DO YOU SPEAK FOR MR. DAYAN AND MR. KAMEL?

VANCE: LET ME DEFINE WHAT I MEANT IN TERMS OF PROGRESS. I SAID I THOUGHT THAT THERE WAS PROGRESS IN THE FACT THAT WE HAD THIS MEETING. I SAID SECONDLY THAT WHETHER OR NOT THERE IS PROGRESS IN THE NORMAL SENSE, WHICH I THINK YOU ARE USING THE WORD PROGRESS, WE CANNOT TELL UNTIL THERE IS A LATER MEETING. I AM SPEAKING FOR MY OWN..

QUESTION: ...AND NOT FOR MR. DAYAN AND MR. KAMEL?

VANCE: I AM SPEAKING ON MY OWN.

QUESTION: DID YOU AT ANY TIME MAKE ANY NEW SUGGESTIONS TO THE PARTIES ON BEHALF OF YOUR GOVERNMENT?

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LONDON 11473 05 OF 07 200025Z

VANCE: NO I DID NOT.

QUESTION: YOU DID NOT.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, COULD YOU EXPLAIN, PLEASE, EXACTLY HOW THESE TALKS WILL CONTINUE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. DO YOU ANTICIPATE, FOR EXAMPLE, MR. KAMEL MEETING YOU IN ISRAEL AND MR. DAYAN MEETING YOU AND MR. KAMEL IN EGYPT, OR POSSIBLY IN EL-ARISH?

VANCE: WE HAVE GOT TO WORK OUT THE DETAILS OF HOW WE PROCEED FROM HERE, BUT LET ME SKETCH OUT THE WAY THAT I WOULD IMAGINE IT WOULD HAPPEN. I HAVE ASKED ROY ATHERTON TO GO OUT VERY SOON TO MAKE HIMSELF AVAILABLE TO THE PARTIES IN PREPARATION FOR FURTHER TALKS. SECONDLY, I WOULD THEN GO OUT TO THE MIDDLE EAST, PROBABLY VISIT WITH THE PARTIES AND ADVANCE A FURTHER MEETING SIMILAR TO THE ONE WHICH WE HAD TODAY TO REVIEW THE PREPARATIONS THAT HAD BEEN MADE FOR IT AND THEN WE WOULD GO INTO SUCH MEETINGS.

QUESTION: ABOUT THE NEXT MEETING, DO YOU THINK THAT THERE WILL BE AN END TO IT BEFORE OCTOBER, WHICH IT IS WELL KNOWN IS THE MONTH OF THE END OF THE SEPARATION BETWEEN THE MILITARY TROOPS BETWEEN ISRAEL AND EGYPT IN OCTOBERRENEWED OR NOT RENEWED DO YOU THINK THAT THESE MEETINGS WILL REACH AN END BEFORE OCTOBER?

VANCE: I DON'T KNOW.

QUESTION: MR. VANCE, WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT SECURITY MEASURES FOR ISRAEL ON THE WEST BANK AND GAZA, DID YOU ALSO DISCUSS WHERE THE LINES WOULD BE FOR THE SECURITY OF ISRAEL ON THE WEST BANK?

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 LONDON 11473 05 OF 07 200025Z

UNCLASSIFIED

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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 11473 06 OF 07 200044Z

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02

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AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

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UNCLAS SECTION 06 OF 07 LONDON 11473

VANCE: WE DID NOT GET INTO THAT KIND OF DETAIL BECAUSE WE DID NOT HAVE PRESENT WITH US AT THIS MEETING PEOPLE WHO ARE EXPERT IN SUCH MILITARY MATTERS. I THINK IT MIGHT BE WISE TO EXPAND AT SOME POINT THE PARTICIPATION IN THESE MEETINGS TO INCLUDE PEOPLE WHO HAVE THIS KIND OF EXPERTISE.

QUESTION: MR. VANCE, A QUESTION OF PRINCIPLE. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT THIS SORT OF SETUP, IN THE PRESENCE OF THE MEDIA, NEGOTIATING IN FRONT OF TV CAMERA IS USEFUL OR HARMFUL FOR THIS SORT OF NEGOTIATION?

VANCE: I THINK IF ONE TALKS ABOUT THE DETAILS OF WHAT TOOK PLACE IN THE MEETING, DISCUSSION OF THAT KIND OF MATERIAL IS NOT USEFUL. I THINK IN TERMS OF TALKING
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 11473 06 OF 07 200044Z

ABOUT THE GENERAL PRINCIPLES WHICH ARE INVOLVED, THE GENERAL STATUS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, THE GENERAL DIRECTION IN WHICH THEY ARE MOVING, THAT KIND OF DISCUSSION I THINK IS BOTH NECESSARY AND USEFUL.

QUESTION: THE UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL, DR. WALDHEIM, HAS EXPRESSED HIS SCEPTICISM ABOUT THE PRESENT MEETING. WOULD YOU HAVE ANY COMMENT ON THE POSITION OF DR. WALDHEIM AND WOULD YOU SAY THAT THE MEETING IN THE IDYLIC SURROUNDINGS OF LEEDS CASTLE HAS ACHIEVED ANYTHING TO ALLEVIATE HIS SCEPTICISM?

VANCE: I HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO TALK TO SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM SINCE HE MADE THAT STATEMENT. I WILL BE TALKING TO HIM VERY SHORTLY AFTER I GO HOME AND WILL BE REPORTING TO HIM ON THE GENERAL NATURE OF THE DISCUSSIONS AND WHAT TOOK PLACE. I HAVE ALWAYS FOUND THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO BE VERY THOUGHTFUL AND COOPERATIVE. I LOOK FORWARD TO EXPLAINING TO HIM WHAT TOOK PLACE HERE AND I WOULD THINK AND HOPE AND BELIEVE THAT WHEN I HAVE A CHANCE TO EXPLAIN WHAT TOOK PLACE THAT HE WILL THINK IT HAS BEEN USEFUL, AS DO I.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, IN VIEW OF THE SENSITIVITIES OF THE TWO SIDES AS TO THE MECHANICS OF NEGOTIATIONS, WHETHER THEY ARE DIRECT OR INDIRECT, DO YOU FEEL THAT YOUR GOING TO THE MIDDLE EAST POSSIBLY GETTING BACK INTO SHUTTLE IS A SETBACK OR A SLOWDOWN OF MOMENTUM? AND HOW SOON DO YOU THINK THE TWO SIDES COULD GO BACK TO NEGOTIATING FACE TO FACE OR POSSIBLY A SUMMIT OF THE LEADERS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES?

VANCE: I WANT TO MAKE IT VERY CLEAR AGAIN THAT THE
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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LONDON 11473 06 OF 07 200044Z

DISCUSSIONS WHICH TOOK PLACE DURING THE LAST TWO DAYS

WERE AT LEAST IN PERCENTAGE TERMS, NINETY PER CENT, BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES. THEY WERE TALKING DIRECTLY TO EACH OTHER AND IT IS A SIMPLE FACT OF LIFE THAT THAT WAS WHAT WAS TAKING PLACE.

QUESTION: BUT NOW THEY WILL NOT BE TALKING DIRECTLY, SIMPLY BECAUSE YOU WILL BE THE CONNECTING FACTOR BETWEEN TWO SEPARATE CUSTOMERS.

VANCE: NO, I SAID I ANTICIPATED THAT THERE WOULD BE OTHER MEETINGS OF THIS TYPE IN THE FUTURE AND THAT I EXPECTED THAT THIS WOULD BE THE CASE WHEN I WENT BACK TO THE MIDDLE EAST IN TWO WEEKS.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, CAN YOU GUARANTEE THAT MEETINGS OF THIS TYPE WILL TAKE PLACE AGAIN OR DO YOU JUST ANTICIPATE IT?

VANCE: I CANNOT GUARANTEE, BECAUSE EACH OF THE GOVERNMENTS HAS TO RECEIVE THE REPORT FROM THEIR FOREIGN MINISTER AND THEN MAKE A DETERMINATION. I STILL SAY I ANTICIPATE AND EXPECT THAT THEY WILL TAKE PLACE.

QUESTION: IN YOUR STATEMENT YOU REFER TO THE MAJOR DIFFERENCES. JUST SO THERE IS NO REAL SURPRISES, DID YOU FIND THAT THE CORE ELEMENTS IN WHICH THE TWO SIDES HAVE BEEN AT QUITE DIFFERENT ODDS, SUCH AS INTERPRETATION OF 242, THE QUESTION OF DEGREE OF WITHDRAWAL, THE QUESTION OF SOVEREIGNTY FOR THE WEST BANK, DO ALL THESE CORE ISSUES STILL REMAIN DIFFERENCES?

VANCE: THE CORE ISSUES STILL REMAIN AREAS WHERE THERE ARE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE PARTIES.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 LONDON 11473 06 OF 07 200044Z

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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 11473 07 OF 07 200049Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
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SSO-00 INRE-00 SAA-01 IO-14 /077 W
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AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE
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UNCLAS SECTION 07 OF 07 LONDON 11473

QUESTION: IS THERE ANY RISK, CHANCE OR EVEN DANGER
THAT TOMORROW THE OTHER TWO PARTIES, MR. KAMEL AND
MR. DAYAN GIVING NEWS CONFERENCES MIGHT HAVE A DIFFERENT
EVALUATION OF WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING HERE THESE TWO
DAYS THAN YOU HAVE NOW?

VANCE: ANYTHING IS POSSIBLE. I WOULD DOUBT IT.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, HOW MUCH OF YOUR FUTURE PLANS
WERE PRE-ORDAINED BEFORE THIS MEETING EVER TOOK PLACE?
HOW MUCH WAS ACTUALLY DECIDED IN THE LAST COUPLE OF
DAYS ABOUT WHAT WOULD DO?

VANCE: I DON'T UNDERSTAND YOUR QUESTION.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 11473 07 OF 07 200049Z

QUESTION: HAD YOU PLANNED TO GO TO THE MIDDLE EAST
EVEN BEFORE YOU GOT HERE, WAS THAT EVEN DISCUSSED, WAS
THAT A MATTER OF SOME OF YOUR DISCUSSIONS?

VANCE: I HAD PLANNED TO GO TO THE MIDDLE EAST SHOULD
THIS MEETING WHICH WE HAVE HAD OVER THE LAST TWO DAYS
PROVE USEFUL. IT HAS PROVED USEFUL THEREFORE I WOULD
EXPECT NOW TO TAKE THE SECOND STEP.

QUESTION: DO MR. DAYAN AND MR. KAMEL ALSO EXPECT FURTHER
MEETINGS OR THEY ARE STILL RESERVING THEIR JUDGMENT?

VANCE: YOU WILL HAVE TO ASK EACH OF THEM, AND I AM SURE THEY WILL BOTH GIVE YOU AN ANSWER.

QUESTION: INAUDIBLE. (SECRETARY VANCE PARAPHRASED AS FOLLOWS: QUESTION WAS, TWO QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN PUT, AS ALL OF YOU KNOW, TO ISRAEL BY THE UNITED STATES EARLIER THIS YEAR, WITH RESPECT TO THE WEST BANK AND GAZA, BOTH OF THOSE QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED. I WAS ASKED BY THE QUESTIONER, DO THE ANSWERS WHICH WERE GIVEN GIVE ME ANY CONFIDENCE ABOUT PROGRESS FOR THE FUTURE?)

VANCE: I THINK THAT THERE HAS TO BE FURTHER EXPLORATION OF THE ANSWER TO THOSE TWO QUESTIONS. AS I INDICATED PREVIOUSLY, I DID NOT FEEL THAT THE ANSWER TO THE FIRST QUESTION THAT WAS PUT TO THEM WAS A SUFFICIENTLY RESPONSIVE ANSWER AND THEREFORE I THINK THAT IT IS A QUESTION THAT REQUIRES FURTHER EXPLANATION AND FURTHER DISCUSSION.

QUESTION: MR. SECRETARY, LAST QUESTION, WERE THE UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LONDON 11473 07 OF 07 200049Z

ISRAELI AND THE EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENTS ASKED TO JOIN IN A COMMON STATEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES AND/OR WHY IS A STATEMENT ONLY BEING ISSUED BY THE TEN PER CENT MEDIATOR INSTEAD OF THE NINETY PER CENT DISPUTANTS?

VANCE: EACH ONE IS GOING TO TALK TO THE PRESS THEMSELVES. WE DECIDED THAT THIS WAS THE BEST WAY TO DO IT. I THINK MR. DAYAN IS ALREADY TALKING TO SOME OF THE PRESS AND WILL BE TALKING TO OTHERS. I BELIEVE THAT MR. KAMEL WILL DO THE SAME THING. WE JUST DECIDED THAT THIS WAS A CONVENIENT WAY FOR ALL OF US TO DO IT.

THANK YOU.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: LONDON
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Litigation History:
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 17
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1957926
Secure: OPEN
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To: STATE
Type: TE
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Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014